

**To:** Bohan, Suzanne[bohan.suzanne@epa.gov]  
**From:** Morning Consult  
**Sent:** Sun 12/18/2016 7:00:44 PM  
**Subject:** Morning Consult Energy: Week in Review & What's Ahead

By Jack Fitzpatrick

## Week In Review

### Trump picks Tillerson, Perry, Zinke

- **President-elect Trump officially announced he intends to nominate ExxonMobil Corp. CEO Rex Tillerson to be secretary of State, former Texas Gov. Rick Perry (R) to be Energy secretary, and Rep. Ryan Zinke (R-Mont.) to be Interior secretary.**
- Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) warned that he may not support Tillerson's confirmation, though his concerns are over the CEO's stance on Russia rather than energy.
- Environmentalists have more complaints about Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt, tapped to lead the Environmental Protection Agency, than they do about Perry or Zinke. But preventing Pruitt's confirmation will prove difficult.
- The Department of Energy said it would not provide individual names in response to a transition team questionnaire asking for names of employees who worked on climate policy. The transition team later disavowed the memo, saying it was "not authorized."
- Scientists have been copying publicly available government data on climate change, afraid the Trump administration might delete the information.

### Non-OPEC countries strike deal to cut output

- Eleven oil producing countries that are not in OPEC, including Russia, agreed to cut output.
- The OPEC deal to cut oil output could lead to a supply deficit in 2017, according to the International Energy Agency.

United States should join future deals to limit oil production.

### Clean-energy supporters launch investment fund

- **A group of some of the world's wealthiest people, including Bill Gates, launched a \$1 billion investment fund focused on clean-energy production.**
- The U.S.'s first offshore wind farm, off of Rhode Island's Block Island, opened.

### EPA says fracking can affect drinking water

- **The EPA released a final report saying hydraulic fracturing can affect drinking water resources, although there isn't enough data to say whether it has happened on a widespread, systemic level.**
- The Belle Fourche pipeline in Billings County, North Dakota, spilled about 176,000 gallons of oil roughly 150 miles from the site of the protests against the Dakota Access pipeline.

## What's Ahead

- Congress is out of session until January.
- The Brookings Institution will hold a panel on Tuesday about U.S.-Japan relations, focusing on climate change.

## Mark Your Calendars (All Eastern Times)

### Monday

CSIS event on maritime disputes and Arctic Ocean

9 a.m.

### Tuesday

Brookings Institution event on U.S.-Japan energy policy

3:30 p.m.

### Wednesday

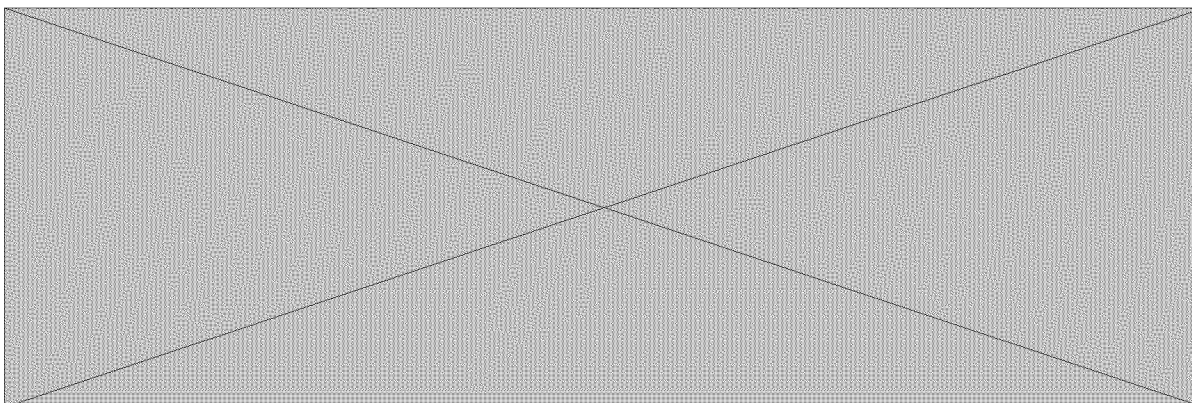
No events scheduled

### Thursday

No events scheduled

### Friday

No events scheduled



## Morning Consult Energy Top Reads

1) [Red states ask Trump for quick action against climate rule](#)  
Timothy Cama, The Hill

2) [Trump selects Zinke as interior secretary](#)  
Kenneth P. Vogel et al., Politico

3) [Rex Tillerson, Exxon Chief, Is Expected to Be Pick for Secretary of State](#)  
David E. Sanger et al., The New York Times

4) [Rex Tillerson, Exxon C.E.O., Chosen as Secretary of State](#)  
Michael D. Shear and Maggie Haberman, The New York Times

5) [Trump team disavows climate change questionnaire to Energy Department](#)  
Eugene Scott, CNN

6) [This interactive map shows why renewables and natural gas are taking over the US](#)  
Brad Plumer, Vox

7) [Energy Department rejects Trump's request for names of employees going to climate meetings](#)  
John Siciliano, Washington Examiner

8) [Rick Perry a leading candidate for U.S. energy post: source](#)  
Steve Holland, Reuters

9) [Trump says 'nobody really knows' if climate change is real](#)  
Juliet Eilperin, The Washington Post

**10) Scientists are frantically copying U.S. climate data, fearing it might vanish under Trump**

Brady Dennis, The Washington Post

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